

(PCT Article 36 and Rule 70)

INTERNATIONAL PRELIMINARY REPORT ON PATENTABILITY

International application No.

PCT/JP2005/001808

Box No. I Basis of the report

1. With regard to the language, this report is based on the international application in the language in which it was filed, unless otherwise indicated under this item.
- ☐ This report is based on translations from the original language into the following language _____, which is the language of a translation furnished for the purposes of:
- ☐ international search (Rule 12.3 and 23.1(b))
- ☐ publication of the international application (Rule 12.4)
- ☐ international preliminary examination (Rule 55.2 and/or 55.3)
2. With regard to the elements of the international application, this report is based on *(replacement sheets which have been furnished to the receiving Office in response to an invitation under Article 14 are referred to in this report as "originally filed" and are not annexed to this report)*:
- ☐ the international application as originally filed/furnished
- ☒ the description:
- pages 4, 7, 9, 10, 12, 15, 22, 23 as originally filed/furnished
- pages* 1-3, 5, 6, 8, 11, 13, 14, 16-21, 24-36 received by this Authority on 26.09.2005
- pages* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the claims:
- nos. 17, 22, 23 as originally filed/furnished
- nos.* _____ as amended (together with any statement) under Article 19
- nos.* 1-3, 5, 6, 16, 18-21 received by this Authority on 26.09.2005
- nos.* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☒ the drawings:
- sheets fig. 1 as originally filed/furnished
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- sheets* _____ received by this Authority on _____
- ☐ a sequence listing and/or any related table(s) – see Supplemental Box Relating to Sequence Listing.
3. ☒ The amendments have resulted in the cancellation of:
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☒ the claims, nos. 4, 7-15
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____
4. ☐ This report has been established as if (some of) the amendments annexed to this report and listed below had not been made, since they have been considered to go beyond the disclosure as filed, as indicated in the Supplemental Box (Rule 70.2(c)).
- ☐ the description, pages _____
- ☐ the claims, nos. _____
- ☐ the drawings, sheets/figs _____
- ☐ the sequence listing (*specify*): _____
- ☐ any table(s) related to sequence listing (*specify*): _____

* If item 4 applies, some or all of those sheets may be marked "superseded."

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Box No. V	Reasoned statement under Article 35(2) with regard to novelty, inventive step or industrial applicability; citations and explanations supporting such statement		
1. Statement			
Novelty (N)	Claims	1-3, 5, 6, 16-23	YES
	Claims		NO
Inventive step (IS)	Claims		YES
	Claims	1-3, 5, 6, 16-23	NO
Industrial applicability (IA)	Claims	1-3, 5, 6, 16-23	YES
	Claims		NO
2. Citations and explanations (Rule 70.7)			
Document 1: JP 11-323015 A			
Document 2: JP 2000-327797 A			
Claims 1 to 3, 5, 6 and 16 to 23			
<p>The inventions set forth in claims 1 to 3, 5, 6 and 16 to 23 do not involve an inventive step in the light of documents 1 and 2 cited in the international search report.</p> <p>Document 1 discloses a fibrous textile that has been coated with a flame-retardant resin composition configured from a thermoplastic resin and a flame retardant that has been encapsulated in microcapsules (refer to claims 1 and 10); therein, document 1 also presents a nonwoven fabric as an example of said fibrous textile (refer to paragraph [0031]).</p> <p>On the other hand, document 1 does not make any disclosure delimiting the binder for the nonwoven fabric. However, the phenolic resins set forth in claim 1 of the present application are commonly used as resin binders for nonwoven fabrics (refer to document 2, claim 1, paragraphs [0018] to [0019] and examples 7 to 8); therefore, it cannot be considered to require significant</p>			

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citations and explanations supporting such statement

creative ability for a person skilled in the art to conceive of employing one of the phenolic resins set forth in claims 1 to 3 of the present application as a binder when using a nonwoven fabric as the fibrous textile in the invention disclosed in document 1.

With regards to examples 1 and 2 and comparative examples 1 and 3 in the detailed description of the invention in the present application, although there are also some examples of configurations that exhibited slightly different effects, there is no significant difference between the effects associated with the flame retardance characteristics, the acoustic absorptivity, the air flow resistance and the adhesion strengths of the configurations in examples wherein the films had a thickness of 200 μm . Such being the case, if the effects exhibited by the configurations in the aforementioned examples and comparative examples are taken as a whole, there cannot be considered to be any significant effects that result from employing one of the phenolic resins set forth in claims 1 to 3 of the present application as the binder in the invention set forth in claim 1 of the present application.

Furthermore, a person skilled in the art could adjust the amount of the aforementioned flame retardant that is adhered to the fibrous textile in order to achieve favorable effects, as appropriate.

Moreover, it would not be especially difficult for a person skilled in the art to conceive of simply employing the well-known base material set forth in claims 5 and 6 of the present application as the fibrous base material in the invention disclosed in document 1.

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Likewise, it would not have been especially difficult for a person skilled in the art to configure the inventions set forth in claims 16 and 23 by simply employing the fibrous material disclosed in document 1, which has flame retardant-containing capsules adhered thereto, in an automobile, which is an environment in which it is desirable for a material to exhibit flame retardance characteristics. In addition, automotive materials which have the layered structure set forth in claims 18 to 21 are well known, and it would not have been especially difficult to configure the layered structure in question. Furthermore, a person skilled in the art could establish the ranges set forth in claims 17 and 22 of the present application by adjusting the air flow resistance of said layered structure in order to achieve favorable effects, as appropriate.

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Supplemental Box

In case the space in any of the preceding boxes is not sufficient.

Continuation of: Front page

International Patent Classification (IPC) or national
classification and IPC:

D06M23/12 (2006.01)